

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2491

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FOR REIS (IO/UNP)

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS : SGEN

SUBJ: STATUS OF WOMEN COMMISSION--DRAFT DECLARATION ON
PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN ARMED CONFLICT

REF: USUN 296

1. FOLLOWING DRAFT DECLARATION AMENDING DRAFT PREPARED
BY WOMEN'S INT'L DEMOCRATIC FEDERATION (WIDF) FORWARDED
REFTEL, BEING CIRCULATED INFORMALLY FOR SUBMISSION TO CSW
PROBABLY TOMORROW. EGYPT WILL INTRODUCE IT WITH HUNGARY,
GUINEA, ROMANIA, BYELORUSSIA AND USSR AS COSPONSORS.
REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS SOONEST PER REIS/HUTAR TELECON THIS AM.

WORKING PAPER

DRAFT DECLARATION: ON THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN
IN EMERGENCY AND ARMED CONFLICT IN THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE,
SELF-DETERMINATION, NATIONAL LIBERATION AND INDEPENDENCE.

THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN. RECOMMENDS TO THE
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL THE ADOPTION OF THE FOLLOWING
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DRAFT RESOLUTION.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, EXPRESSING ITS DEEP CONCERN OVER THE SUFFERINGS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN BELONGING TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION WHO IN PERIODS OF EMERGENCY AND ARMED CONFLICT IN THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE, SELF-DETERMINATION, NATIONAL LIBERATION AND INDEPENDENCE ARE TOO OFTEN THE VICTIMS OF INHUMAN ACTS AND CONSEQUENTLY SUFFER SERIOUS HARM,

AWARE OF THE SUFFERING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN MANY AREAS OF THE WORLD, ESPECIALLY IN THOSE AREAS SUBJECT TO COLONIALISM, RACISM, ALIEN DOMINATION AND FOREIGN SUBJUGATION.

DEEPLY CONCERNED BY THE FACT THAT, DESPITE GENERAL AND UNEQUIVOCAL CONDEMNATION, COLONIALISM, RACISM, ALIEN AND FOREIGN DOMINATION CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN MANY PEOPLES UNDER THEIR YOKE, CRUELLY SUPPRESSING THE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND INFLECTING HEAVY LOSSES AND INCALCULABLE SUFFERING ON THE POPULATIONS UNDER THEIR DOMINATION, INCLUDING WOMEN AND CHILDREN,

DEPLORING AND NOTING THAT GRAVE ATTACKS ARE STILL BEING MADE ON FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS AND THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON AND THAT COLONIAL AND RACIST AND THE FOREIGN DOMINATION POWERS CONTINUE TO VIOLATE THE INT'L HUMANITARIAN LAW.

RECALLING THE EXISTENCE OF A NUMBER OF STIPULATIONS CONTAINED IN THE INSTRUMENTS OF INT'L LAW RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN TIME OF PEACE AND IN WARTIME, STIPULATIONS BASED ON HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS AND WHICH HAVE AS THEIR OBJECT THE PROTECTION OF FUTURE GENERATIONS,

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION THE WORK OF THE INT'L COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS WHICH IS CURRENTLY PREPARING TWO ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS ON THIS SUBJECT, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF INT'L LAW APPLYING TO THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARMED CONFLICT.

NOTING THAT THE 1925 GENEVA PROTOCOL AND THE 1949 GENEVA CONVENTIONS RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF WAR, WHICH CONTAIN IMPORTANT PROVISIONS ON THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN, ARE AT PRESENT NOT BEING ACKNOWLEDGED OR APPLIED BY UNCLASSIFIED

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CERTAIN STATES IN THE COURSE OF ARMED CONFLICTS IN THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE, SELF-DETERMINATION, NATIONAL LIBERATIONS AND INDEPENDENCE.

RECALLING ITS RES 2444 (XXIII), 2597 (XXIV), 2674 (XXV) AND 2675 (XXV) ON RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND BASIC PRINCIPLES FOR THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIAN POPULATIONS IN ARMED CONFLICTS, AS WELL AS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RES 1515 (XLVIII) OF 28 MAY 1970 WHICH REQUESTS THE GA TO CONSIDER THE POSSIB-

ILITY OF DRAFTING A DECLARATION ON THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN EMERGENCY AND WARTIME, AMONG OTHER IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS.

CONSCIOUS OF ITS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DESTINY OF THE RISING GENERATION AND FOR THE DESTINY OF MOTHERS, WHO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN SOCIETY, IN THE FAMILY AND PARTICULARLY IN THE UPBRINGING OF CHILDREN,

SOLEMNLY PROCLAIMS THE FOLLOWING DECLARATION WITH A VIEW TO PROVIDING SPECIAL PROTECTION TO WOMEN AND CHILDREN BELONGING TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AND CALLS UPON MEMBER STATES TO STRICTLY OBSERVE THEM.

1. ATTACKS AND BOMBINGS ON CIVILIAN POPULATIONS AND THE USE OF CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL WEAPONS IN THE COURSE OF MILITARY OPERATIONS, CONSTITUTES ONE OF THE MOST FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS OF THE 1925 GENEVA PROTOCOL AND THE 1949 GENEVA CONVENTIONS AND INFLECTING HEAVY LOSSES ON CIVILIAN POPULATIONS, INCLUDING DEFENSELESS WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND SHALL BE SEVERELY CONDEMNED.

2. ALL STATES SHALL ABIDE FULLY BY THEIR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE 1925 GENEVA PROTOCOL AND THE 1949 GENEVA CONVENTIONS, AS WELL AS OTHER INSTRUMENTS OF INT'L LAW RELATIVE TO RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARMED CONFLICTS, WHICH OFFER IMPORTANT GUARANTEES FOR THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

3. ALL EFFORTS SHALL BE MADE BY STATES ENGAGED IN MILITARY OPERATIONS IN FOREIGN TERRITORIES TO SARE WOMEN AND CHILDREN FROM THE RAVAGES OF WAR. ALL THE NECESSARY STEPS SHALL BE TAKEN TO PROHIBIT MEASURES SUCH AS: PERSECUTION, TORTURE, PUNITIVE MEASURES, DEGRADING TREATMENT AND VIOLENCE, PARTICULARLY AGAINST THAT PART OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION THAT CONSISTS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

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4. ALL FORMS OF REPRESSION AND CRUEL AND INHUMAN TREATMENT FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, INCLUDING IMPRISONMENT, TORTURE, SHOOTING, MASS ARRESTS, COLLECTIVE PUNISHMENT, DESTRUCTION OF DWELLINGS AND FORCIBLE EVICTION, COMMITTED BY BELLIGERENTS IN THE COURSE OF MILITARY OPERATIONS OR IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES SHALL BE CONSIDERED CRIMINAL.

5. WOMEN AND CHILDREN BELONGING TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AND FINDING THEMSELVES IN CIRCUMSTANCES OF EMERGENCY AND ARMED CONFLICT IN THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE, SELF-DETERMINATION, NATIONAL LIBERATION AND INDEPENDENCE, OR WHO LIVE IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, SHALL NOT BE DEPRIVED OF SHELTER, FOOD, MEDICAL AID OR OTHER INALIENABLE RIGHTS GUARANTEED BY THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER, THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THE INT-

L COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, THE DECLARATION OF THE
RIGHTS OF THE CHILD OR OTHER INSTRUMENTS OF INT'L LAW.
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